REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed April 17, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 1-11 and 13-16 were previously pending in this application. Claims 1-4 have been amended herein to recite 4-carboxyphenyl as an acidic substituent, which is supported in the specification at page 10, line 6, and pages 17-19, by way of example and not limitation. As a result, claims 1-11 and 13-16 remain pending for examination with claims 1-4 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Summary of Examiner Interview

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by Examiners Trinh and Wong in granting an in-person interview on July 8, 2008. The substance of the interview is summarized herein.

During the interview, Applicants representatives proposed amending the claims to recite the efficiency that can be achieved by the photoelectric component, as described in the present application. The Examiners suggested instead amending the claims to include a structural limitation not found in Wariishi or Osuka. Applicants thank the Examiners for their suggestion and note that the claims have been amended herein to include a further structural limitation not found in the prior art.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as purportedly being unpatentable over Wariishi (6,376,765) in view of Osuka (6,812,343). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Even if the combination of Wariishi and Osuka was proper, the claims as amended distinguish over the combination.

As discussed in previous responses, Wariishi describes a dye-sensitized solar cell, and Osuka describes linked porphyrin compounds. Osuka describes various acidic substituents at Col. 2, line 64- Col. 3, line 12. Wariishi mentions o-carboxyphenyl at Col. 34, line 54, however, Wariishi makes no mention of using o-carboxyphenyl as a constituent of porphyrin, much less 4-carboxyphenyl.

By contrast, claims 1-4, as amended, each recite a dye-sensitized type photoelectric conversion device comprising a sensitizing dye having an acidic group-containing porphyrin polymer expressed by a general formula (1), (2), (3) or (4) comprising a 4-carboxyphenyl acidic substituent. Neither Wariishi nor Osuka teaches or suggests dye-sensitized type photoelectric conversion device comprising porphyrin with a 4-carboxyphenyl acidic substituent. Therefore, claims 1-4 patentably distinguish over the combination of Wariishi and Osuka. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-11 depend from one or more of claims 1-4 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. S1459.70056US00.

Dated: July 17, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

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